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The Princess Royal and Princess Alice took a carriage drive; also the younger members of the Royal Family.

The Queen and Prince, with the four elder Royal children, the Prince Nicholas of Nassau, the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine Service this morning in the private chapel of the Castle.

The Hon. and very Rev. the Dean of Windsor officiated.

THE WAR.—By the latest despatches from the Crimea we learn that Sebastopol had not yet surrendered to the Allies.

The opening of Parliament has been prorogued *pro forma* until the middle of November.

The Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal have each a small garden at Osborne, which they cultivate themselves. Great rivalry exists amongst them as to which can produce the best flowers and fruit. The prince had failed in the production of something, and he solicited help. Prince Albert, when he found this out, forbad it, adding, he did not wish the future king of England to receive assistance in anything that he could do himself.—*Daily News.*

Brief Chronicle of the last Month.

THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE MUSICAL FESTIVAL, for the benefit of the Infirmary, took place on the 24th, 25th, and 26th of October, under very distinguished patronage. The vocal artists were Madame Clara Novello, Mrs. Endersohn, Mrs. Lockey, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Lockey, Mr. Hobbs, Mr. Land, Mr. J. L. Hatton, and Mr. Henry Phillips. The band consisted of the Orchestral Union of London, together with the best local instrumentalists. The chorus was formed of members of the Hanley, Shelton, Burslem, Longton, Newcastle-under-Lyne, and Birmingham Festival Choral Societies. On Tuesday evening, St. Mark's Church, Shelton, was crowded, to hear Haydn's *Creation*, with selections from Mendelssohn's *Elijah* and *St. Paul.* The prices of admission were judiciously placed at such a rate, as to enable the less affluent to enjoy this refined musical treat; and the mode in which the lowest-priced seats were filled, showed how eagerly the privilege was esteemed. On Wednesday morning, Handel's *Messiah* was given in the same church; and on that evening, a grand miscellaneous concert took place in the Town Hall, Hanley. The Festival concluded with a full dress ball, on Thursday, at Hanley.

THE PROVINCIAL TOUR OF CONCERTS, under the organization of Mr. Beale, with Madame Clara Novello as the chief vocalist, assisted by Mr. Sims Reeves and the Madrigal Union, has comprised brilliant performances at Bath, Bristol, Birmingham, Birkenhead, Devonport, Exeter, Hanley, Liverpool, Manchester, Preston, Plymouth, Reading, Shelton, Shrewsbury, and Torquay. The scheme farther embraces concerts at a variety of places, extending over the whole of the present month.

BIRMINGHAM.—The Festival Choral Society gave a performance of Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, in the Town Hall, to an overflowing audience. The principal vocalists were Mrs. Sunderland, Mrs. Paget, Mr. Perring, and Mr. Thomas. Organist, Mr. Stimpson.

PRESTON.—The Choral Society gave Haydn's *Creation*, and Romberg's *Transient and the Eternal*, on the 12th of October. The principal vocal performers were Miss Witham, Mr. Inkersall, and Mr. Winn. Conductor, Mr. Fawcett. This latter gentleman gives his first Grand Subscription Concert on the 30th October, when Madame Clara Novello, Mr. Sims Reeves, and the Madrigal Union, will appear.

MARGATE.—A selection of Sacred Music was given on the 12th October, from Handel's *Judas Maccabæus*, *Messiah*, Haydn's *Creation*, &c. Vocalists, Miss Pearce, Mr. Genge, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Gough. Conductor, Mr. Callcott. The *South Eastern Gazette* speaks in high praise of the performance.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Mr. Gubbins gave a highly attractive concert of miscellaneous music, on the 10th of October. Madame Clara Novello was the vocal star on the occasion.

MANCHESTER AND SALFORD SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.—This flourishing association gave Handel's *Judas Maccabæus* on the 9th of Oct. The solos were taken by Mrs. Sunderland, Mrs. Winterbottom, Mr. Perring, and Mr. Delavanti. The choruses were all rendered with a correctness which evidenced the great care and judicious training on the part of the conductor, Mr. H. Walker. The audience was numerous, and highly respectable.

HULL.—During Her Majesty's visit, on the 13th and 14th of October, great exertions were made to render the musical arrangements as complete as possible. One hundred members of the Choral Society (conducted by Mr. Skelton) displayed their loyalty by singing the national anthem, as the Queen entered the Railway Hotel; and on the following morning, the Royal party were welcomed to the balcony by the united voices of 12,000 children from the Sunday Schools. The little choristers acquitted themselves most laudably, and did credit to the training of Mr. Skelton, who had laboured hard for six days at the various schools, and had only *one* combined rehearsal. Her Majesty was pleased to say to the Mayor, "The children sing very well—they keep excellent time."

WINCHESTER.—A miscellaneous concert was given by Mr. Conduit, on the 11th of October, for which he engaged Madame Clara Novello. The concert room was crowded in every part; and several pieces were re-demanded.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH.—A Choral Society has been recently established here, with every prospect of success, under the direction of Mr. G. Orchard.

BURY, LANCASHIRE.—It is very likely the musical people of this thriving town will enjoy many rich treats this season. The two societies in existence last season have amalgamated, under the title of "The Bury Musical Union," the object of which will be to cultivate and encourage whatever musical talent the town and neighbourhood affords. The arrangements will be in the hands of twelve directors, appointed by the subscribers; and from the tone of the resolutions which have been handed to us, we predict a successful series of concerts.—The Singing Class at the Athenæum, under Mr. Banks, continues to thrive. The directors, we believe, intend giving Concerts for the People (as they are called) at a very low rate.

SALISBURY.—The musical public here, were affored an opportunity of hearing Madame Clara Novello in several of her choicest pieces, at the concert given by Mr. Aylward, on the 12th of October. The large attendance bore ample testimony to the sense entertained of Mr. Aylward's active and excellent catering for his audience's gratification.

Mr. CHARLES SALAMAN commences the fifth season of his Amateur Choral Society, on the 29th of November, with Mendelssohn's 95th Psalm, and Hummel's Grand Mass in E flat.

COVENTRY.—A Choral Class has lately been established under the conductorship of Mr. B. Pratt, for the study of reading vocal music at sight. The class commenced the present quarter with a study of Mozart's 12th Mass.

PORTSEA ISLAND ECCLESIASTICAL MUSIC SOCIETY, established last year for the improvement of church music, gave their fourth Members' Rehearsal on the 17th of October. The programme included compositions by Boyce, Callcott, Rogers, Handel, Elvey, Humphries, Nares, Kent, Travers, and Weldon, accompanied on the pianoforte by the Conductor, Mr. Churchill.

THE 104th ANNIVERSARY OF GÖTHE'S BIRTHDAY was commemorated at the Stadt-Theater, Hamburgh, by a performance of his tragedy of *Faust*, accompanied by Professor Pierson's new Overture, Choruses, and *entre-acte* music. The P. F. score of the entire music, is to be published by Schott, of Mayence.